A storm that stirs up the depths makes a grand holiday, but nearly every visit, in storm or calm, repays the student by some glimpse of the life history of some soft—hard dweller of the sea.

Sarah P. Monks.

PRELIMINARY NOTES ON TASMANIAN LAND SHELLS.

BY HENRY SUTER.

Since I became acquainted with the New Zealand and Tasmanian land and fresh water molluscan fauna, some four to five years ago. I came to the conclusion that both are very nearly related, though this opinion is not shared by Conchologists generally. On several occasions I expressed my views, especially when describing *Charopa subantialla* and *Ch. mutabilis*. It is well known that no attempt has been made to classify the Tasmanian land shells; all the Helicidæ have been simply placed in that "*olla potida*" genus *Helix*, Mr. Charles Hedley of Sydney, was first to publish structural details of the animals of some Tasmanian land shells (Proc. Linn. Soc., N. S. W. (2) VI, p. 19). Descriptions and very good figures of the animals and the dentition were there given of *Bulimus dufresni, B. tasmanicus, Anoglypta launcestonensis, Rhytida lampra, Helicarion verreauxi* and *Cystopelta petterdi*.

I have not been successful in procuring land shells with their animals from Tasmania, and I therefore decided to sacrifice part of my collection. There were some specimens with the animal dried in them and these I used for preparing the jaws and radulæ. I have just finished the microscopic slides and have not yet had time to study them carefully. However, I ascertained a few facts, which, I feel sure, may prove of great interest to Conchologists, though my communication is only provisional.

Conchologists of course know that the genera *Endodonta, Charopa* and *Rhytida* are common to New Zealand and Tasmania. The new facts I ascertained of genera or sections of genera found in New Zealand as well as in Tasmania, and part of Australia in some cases, are the following:

Genus **Gerontia.**

Section Flammulina, thought to be confined to New Zealand only. I think that *H. Jungermanniæ* Petterd, belongs to this section, though I am not yet quite positive.

Section *Thalassohelix*, hitherto not recorded from beyond New Zealand. There is no doubt that *H. fordei* Brazier, (=*petterdi* Cox =*positura* Cox) must be classed under this section, and very likely also *H. austrinus* Cox, *H. allporti* Cox, *H. helice* Cox, *H. medianus* Cox, *H. mixta* Cox, *H. tabescens* Cox, *H. tranquilla* Cox, *H. trajectura* Cox, which are said to be varieties of *H. fordei*. This species is found also in Australia.

Genus **Laoma**.

Section *Phrixgnathus*, a genus which was thought to be peculiar to New Zealand "par excellence." Now I am quite sure that the following Tasmanian mollusks belong to this section:

H. cæsus Cox (and var. *occultus* Cox?) *H. henryana* Petterd, and *H. pictilis* Tate; the latter being found also in Australia.

Genus **Rhenea**.[1]

This genus of which two species are known from New Zealand, is in Tasmania represented by *Hyalina nelsonensis* Brazier (=*fulgetrum* Cox, and very likely *H. dyeri* Petterd, though the dentition of the latter is unknown to me).

I am confident that on examining my slides there will be some other sections of *Gerontia* to be placed on record in my next communication on Tasmanian snails.

In future we may no doubt be able to distinguish in New Zealand and Tasmania two different immigrations of land mollusca, one having spread from north southward, and another, the *antarctic*, migrating from south to north.

Springfield Road, Christ Church, New Zealand, Sept. 6, 1893.

SOME (RESPONSIVE) REMARKS RELATIVE TO CYPRÆA GREEGORI FORD.

BY JOHN FORD.

In the note on *Cypræa Greegori* Ford, published in the October number of the NAUTILUS, the writer, Mr. Edgar A. Smith, of London, rather forcibly remarks that "the new French School of Conchologists would probably agree with Mr. Ford in considering the shell in question specifically distinct from *C. cruenta*," but, "he

[1] A genus of carnivorous, jawless snails allied to *Rhytida* and *Paryphanta*, formerly called *Elæa* Hutt. (preoc.)—*Ed.*